

# South Louisiana Comprehensive Coastal Protection and Restoration

Report to Congress Preparation Overview

January 2006

# Presentation Overview

- Introduction
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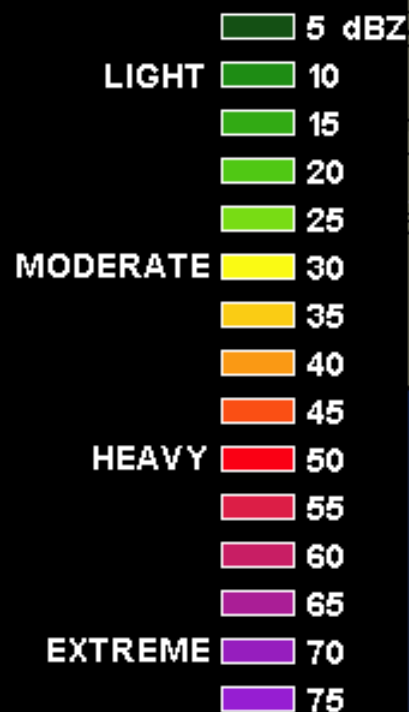
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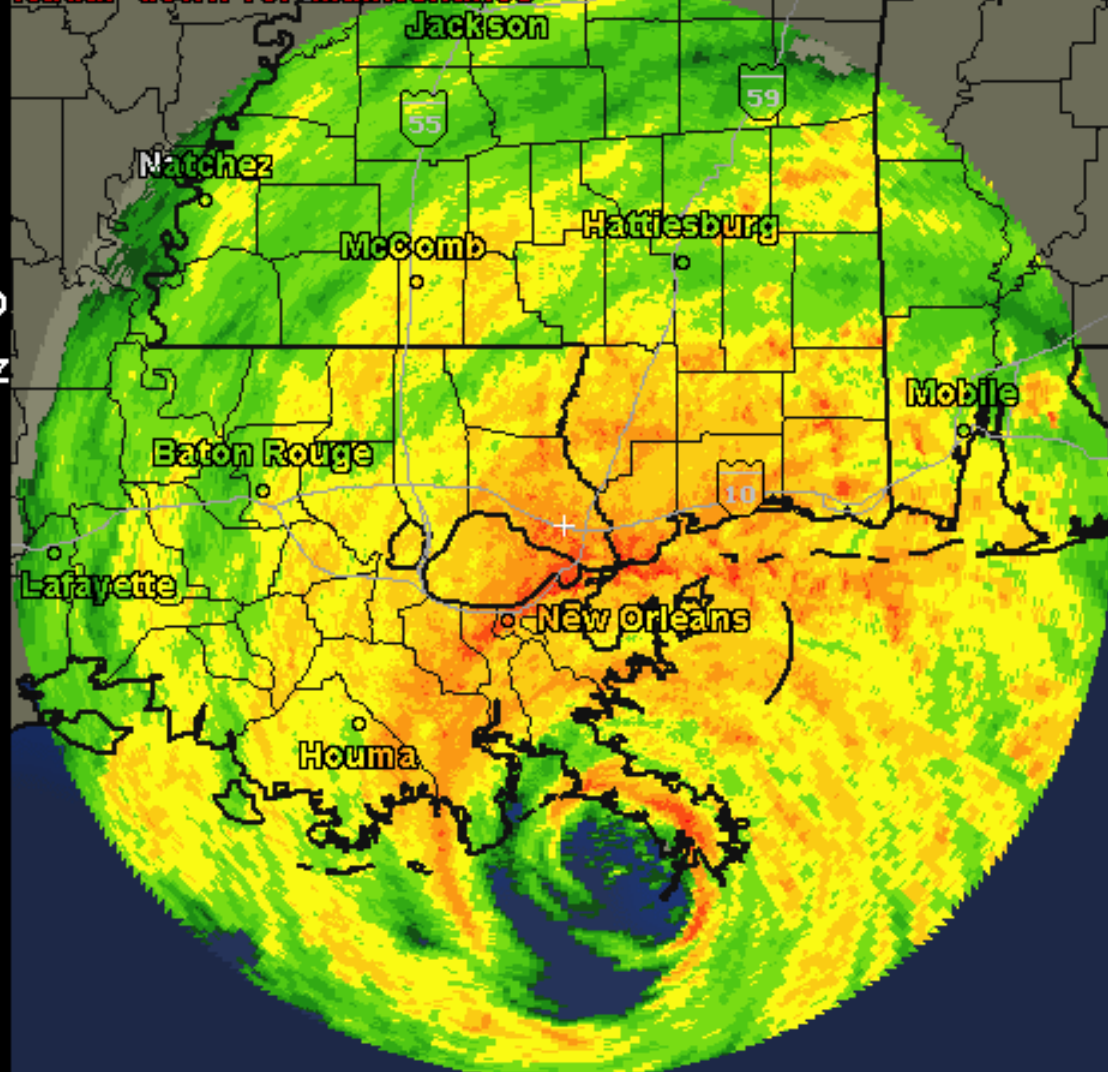
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h5

Radar down for maintenance







17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal area





Rigolets Shoreline Marsh Destruction

# Congressional Direction

- Authorization and appropriation language included in two laws
  - Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-103), 19 November 2005
  - Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-148), 30 December 2005

# Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-148)

SEC. 5009. Public Law 109–103 is amended under the heading “Corps of Engineers—Civil, Investigations”, by striking “*Provided further*, That using \$8,000,000” and all that follows to the end of the paragraph, and inserting in lieu thereof, “*Provided further*, That using \$8,000,000 of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is directed to conduct a comprehensive hurricane protection analysis and design at full federal expense to develop and present a full range of flood control, coastal restoration, and hurricane protection measures exclusive of normal policy considerations for South Louisiana and the Secretary shall submit a preliminary technical report for comprehensive Category 5 protection within 6 months of enactment of this Act and a final technical report for Category 5 protection within 24 months of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consider providing protection for a storm surge equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane within the project area and may submit reports on component areas of the larger protection program for authorization as soon as practicable: *Provided further*, That the analysis shall be conducted in close coordination with the State of Louisiana and its appropriate agencies.”

## Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-148), Chapter 3

*“Provided further, That none of the \$12,000,000 provided herein for the Louisiana Hurricane Protection Study shall be available for expenditure until the State of Louisiana establishes a single state or quasi-state entity to act as local sponsor for construction, operation and maintenance of all of the hurricane, storm damage reduction and flood control projects in the greater New Orleans and southeast Louisiana area”*



# Budget Information

- Initial appropriation amount \$8,000,000
- Second appropriation amount \$12,000,000
  - Funds provision contingent upon “the State of Louisiana establishes a single state or quasi-state entity to act as local sponsor for construction, operation and maintenance of all of the hurricane, storm damage reduction and flood control projects in the greater New Orleans and southeast Louisiana area”
- Total appropriation amount \$20,000,000

# Report Development

- Coordination with State of Louisiana
- Assembly of Project Delivery Team
  - Corps of Engineers staff
  - State agencies
  - Levee boards
  - Academic researchers
  - International managers and scientists
- Workshops
- Modeling
- Public involvement
- Engineering and Design
- Coastal restoration planning

# Planning and Design Workshops

- Wind, Waves and Water (Dec 2005 Vicksburg, MS)
  - Held to develop state of the science for estimating maximum hurricane for design comparison and analysis
  - Included National Hurricane Center, LSU and Dutch
- Initial Plan Formulation (Feb 2006 Lafayette, LA)
  - Assembly of coastal professionals to develop set of three initial alternative alignments for model runs and public presentation at scoping meetings
- Engineering Technical Approaches and Innovations (Feb 2006 New Orleans, LA)
  - Experts in various design fields to assess alternatives and apply both standard and innovative approaches to assist the team in preparation of information gathering plans and tools for analysis

# Schedule

- Preliminary Design Report due to Congress in six months (June 2006)
- Final Design Report due to Congress in twenty-four months (December 2007)



# Special Considerations

- Defining Category 5 storm – what is the upper limit?
- Future without project conditions
  - Level of recovery in New Orleans area and other impacted parishes
  - Continued coastal erosions and wetlands losses
- Unintended consequences
- Coordination with other local, state and Federal projects
  - Congressionally directed hurricane protection study for coastal Mississippi

# QUESTIONS?

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## Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-103)

“...using \$8,000,000 of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is directed to conduct a comprehensive hurricane protection study at full Federal expense to develop and present a full range of flood, coastal and hurricane protection measures exclusive of normal policy considerations for south Louisiana and the Secretary shall submit a feasibility report for short-term protection within 6 months of enactment of this Act, interim protection within 12 months of enactment of this Act and long-term comprehensive protection within 24 months of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That the Secretary shall consider providing protection for a storm surge equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane within the project area and may submit reports on component areas of the larger protection program for authorization as soon as practicable: Provided further, That the analysis shall be conducted in close coordination with the State of Louisiana and its appropriate agencies.”